

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 14, 2018

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

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*Please sign and pass the Friendship Book (“pew pad”) where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together.*

*We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.*

*\* indicates please stand as you are able.*

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**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sam Palpant**

**PRELUDE**

**“Jesus is All the World to Me”**

**Organ**

*on a tune by Will L. Thompson*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Sam Palpant**

The one who calls you together this day  
yearns for each of you and for all people to hear  
and be blessed.

**Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

Blessed is the One who comes bringing  
trustworthy words

for the healing of the world.

**Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

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**\*SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

**“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY”**

*(Hymn 2)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**(VERSE 2)**

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

**(VERSE 3)**

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

though the eye of sinful flesh thy glory may not see;  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power in love and purity.

**(VERSE 4)**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

**“FAIREST LORD JESUS”**

*(Hymn #115)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cherish,  
thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown!

**(VERSE 2)**

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

**(VERSE 3)**

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling, starry host: Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

**(VERSE 4)**

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

**TIME OF PRAYER**

**Chenayla Welch**

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**Prayer of Confession**

Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey  
already knows the confessions of our hearts  
and is ready to forgive,  
let us confess our sin before God and before one  
another.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, you see into each of us  
and know us fully  
as creatures in need of your constant care.  
We confess that we have neither heard your word  
nor followed your will.  
We have failed our nation, neighbors, families,  
friends, and ourselves.  
Give us ears to hear your wisdom.  
Lead us to honesty and faith  
so that we may begin again with renewed strength;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*[Silent Prayer]*

### **Declaration of Forgiveness**

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness,  
and by grace you have been saved.  
In Jesus' name you are forgiven.  
Your sins are no more.  
You have been made clean.  
God strengthens you with freedom  
through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus.

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### **SONG OF WORSHIP:**

*PLEASE REMAIN SEATED*

### **"OUR GREAT SAVIOR"**

*(Hymn #89)*

#### **(VERSE 1)**

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!

Jesus! Lover of my soul;  
friends may fail me, foes assail me,  
he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

#### **(VERSE 2)**

Jesus! what a Strength in weakness!

Let me hide myself in him;  
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,  
he, my Strength, my victory wins.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

**(VERSE 3)**

Jesus! what a Help in sorrow!  
While the billows o'er me roll,  
even when my heart is breaking,  
he, my Comfort, helps my soul.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

**(VERSE 4)**

Jesus! what a Guide and Keeper!  
While the tempest still is high,  
storms about me, night o'ertakes me,  
he, my Pilot, hears my cry.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

**(VERSE 5)**

Jesus! I do now receive him,  
more than all in him I find,  
he has granted me forgiveness,  
I am his, and he is mine.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

**+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Rev. Don Meekhof**

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS**

**Chenayla Welch**

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**Invitation to the Offering**

Jesus promised that you and I will come to see  
heaven opened and angels dancing in splendor.  
Our offerings are a thanksgiving for these gifts.  
Open now your hearts and share your possessions  
so that the church's work is made strong  
for the sake of this needy world.

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication**

Bless in every way, O Lord, the gifts of the people here given.

Enrich the ministries of your people and make us grateful to be able to let go of the things we do not, finally, own. **Amen.**

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*You may bring your offering and/or light a candle at the front or back of the sanctuary.*

*The children are excused at this time to attend Junior Chapel.*

**Offertory**

**"Offertory in D"**

**Organ**

*Lani Smith*

**READING OF THE SCRIPTURES**

**Ezekiel 1:4–5, 22–28** (NIV)

**Lois Robertson**

<sup>4</sup> I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north—an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. The center of the fire looked like glowing metal, <sup>5</sup> and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was human,

<sup>22</sup> Spread out above the heads of the living creatures was what looked something like a vault, sparkling like crystal, and awesome. <sup>23</sup> Under the vault their wings were stretched out one toward the other, and each had two wings covering its body. <sup>24</sup> When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings.

<sup>25</sup> Then there came a voice from above the vault over their heads as they stood with lowered wings. <sup>26</sup> Above the vault over their heads was what looked like a throne of lapis lazuli, and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. <sup>27</sup> I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded

him. <sup>28</sup> Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him.

This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

**Revelation 5:1–14** (NIV)

**Forrest Buckner**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” <sup>3</sup> But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. <sup>4</sup> I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. <sup>5</sup> Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

<sup>6</sup> Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. <sup>8</sup> And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people. <sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
because you were slain,  
and with your blood you purchased for God  
persons from every tribe and language and people  
and nation.

<sup>10</sup> You have made them to be a kingdom and priests  
to serve our God,  
and they will reign on the earth.”

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. <sup>12</sup> In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and  
strength  
and honor and glory and praise!”

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be praise and honor and glory and power,  
for ever and ever!”

<sup>14</sup> The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

**MESSAGE**

**Rev. Forrest Buckner**  
**“Who is Worthy?”**

**\*SONG OF WORSHIP:**

**“BE THOU MY VISION”**

*(Hymn #532)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

**(VERSE 2)**

Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word,  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;

thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my Treasure thou art.

**(VERSE 3)**

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

**BENEDICTION**

**Rev. Forrest Buckner**

**POSTLUDE "Bourrée" (from "Water Music")**  
*G.F. Handel*

**Organ**

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**In the pulpit today:** Forrest Buckner, Ph.D., joined Whitworth in July 2015. After undergraduate degrees in civil and mechanical engineering at Colorado School of Mines, Forrest worked at First Presbyterian Church of Boulder for more than nine years, overseeing the youth ministry there. He earned his M. Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. in theology from the University of St Andrews, in Scotland. Outside of Whitworth, he primarily enjoys spending time with his wife and three young and delightful children-- Esther, Bella, and River.

**Today's Lectionary Readings**

**1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)**

**John 1:43-51**

**Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18**

**1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

*Questions for Reflection*

Where, in what place, and through what person or persons do you hear the call of the Lord? Consider it each day this week. Who has awakened in you a new prayer, a hope, an insight? Give thanks for those persons and moments as signs of God's love for you.

## ***Household Prayer: Morning***

As I rise this day, O God,  
I give you thanks for breath and life,  
for the people I will see today,  
for family, neighbors, and friends,  
and for those whose ways are challenging to my serenity.  
Help me to give thanks especially  
for the people who pull me to new understandings  
and show me sides of life that I have not known  
or do not welcome.  
Urge me to follow you today; in Jesus' name. Amen.

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## ***Household Prayer: Evening***

As the evening comes  
and the time for rest draws near, O God,  
I give you thanks for another full and mystifying day.  
I have not done everything I had hoped to do.  
I have not forgiven myself or others as I ought.  
I ask now that you, who know me through and through,  
will lead me to let go of what I cannot change  
and seek anew tomorrow for a more enlightened path.  
I long for your guidance and your care.  
Guard my sleep, and let me rise renewed;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.

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